

A HISTORY OF KAMP KANAWANA, 1935.

History, according to the dictionary, is a connected chronicle of events. This essay purposes to deal with events at Kanawana during the twenty-sixth year of its existence - 1935.

Although camp did not officially open until June 23, yet long before that time much work had been done. The staff had been chosen - Chief - Greig Macdiarmid, Senior Director - Howie Langille, Junior Director - Ernie Taylor, Juvenile Director - Lorne Hamilton, Camp Doctor - Doctor Weaver; some thirty-five counsellors had been selected; and later the advance guard had arrived to make the place ship-shape for the expected campers.

Finally the twenty-third arrived, and thirty-one campers braved eleven consecutive days of rain - a new record for the Kanawana district. In between showers, however, the golf course was conditioned and the GREEN TRIANGLE launched on its fourth precarious volume. And despite frequent rains everyone enjoyed himself.

When the floods abated the camp program took hold in earnest and the fires of Kanawana were officially lighted in a unique Torch Ceremony symbolic of World Friendship and Brotherhood. On June 30 the first service was held in our beautiful open air chapel; the same week the annual pyjama parade to the post office took place; and as a matter of course the weekly Saturday night shows were resumed.

The following week was notable for the annual boating carnival, which this year seemed to attract more and better entries than ever before. A word about the winner - we shan't tell you what it was - the matter is far too delicate; suffice it to say that a House of Parliament was removed from the hill and Doug Macdonald felt much better. That week, too, Mr. Ernest Trueman presented the camp on behalf of the youth of Japan a goodwill offering in the shape of a "Koi Nobori" or huge flag-effigy of a carp such as are common in Japan. A Mr. Summers of Montevideo, Uruguay, also visited camp and left behind him a clearer concept of the youth spirit in South America, not to mention Mr. Ivan Wong, secretary of the Montreal Chinese Y.M.C.A., who brought us messages from China and wrote all over our shirts in Chinese. The season's extended hiking activities also gained momentum in a Junior four-day affair to Otoreke.

The fourth week of camp was brightened by a visit from Howard C. Ross, K.C., who read a great deal of his delightful poetry. A Mr. Fowle, too, official government photographer, spent some time in camp taking both still and moving pictures. Then there were the annual Shawbridge Invitation Games at which Kanawana covered itself with glory both in the swim and on the diamond.

During the next week - the last in July - the camp lost both its Junior Director, in exchange for Wilf Buckley, and Dr. Weaver for Dr. Eardley. The same week the annual circus was held, of which the \$35. proceeds were spent buying canoe paddles. The Juniors hiked to Fourteen Island Lake, a Senior Canoe Trip started for Sixteen Island Lake but was waylaid at Newaygo. But, more important, each camper stated in a ballot vote whom he thought to be the best camper in his section. As a result, Bob Bennet, Senior, John Kennedy and Bryce Chatam, Juniors, and Junior Taylor, Juvenile, were awarded shields as the best campers in their section for the month of July.

Next week the all-camp regatta was held. At the conclusion of a successful program it was found that Bob Bennet was Senior aggregate man, Bryce Chatam Junior, and Harold Meyer Juvenile. Two days later a number of Seniors participated in the Marois Regatta as well.

But the greatest event of the Kanawana Calendar was yet to come Marois Day, with its galaxy of fun and fever, with its be vies of beautiful girls. It was a thrilling festival, "smacking" of success, especially as far as Juvenile and Senior directors were concerned.

The eight week witnessed a program without precedent in the annals of Kanawana - a musicale, a fine effort much appreciated by the whole camp. During the same week there was also held a Council of the Tribes of Kanawana which speaks well for their introduction again next year.

We embarked upon the final week of camp with an eating-out day, when every camper went over to the haunted house and cooked his own supper. During the afternoon, took the dam which had kept the water in Lakes Kanawana and Wilson at a desirable hieght was let out before the eyes of the assembled campers. Later in the week the voting for the best camper in each Section took place, with
the Junior, and receiving the Senior shield,
the Juvenile.

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And so we have arrived at our last night in Kanawana, at the final campfire of the season. Everyone of us feels that camp this year has meant a great deal to him, that he has grown physically, mentally, spiritually, and has made such friendships as could have been made nowhere else.

And now we are about to bury this short History, in order that it may be unearthed at the first all-camp fire next season and read as a record of the good fellows in Kanawana for 1935 and of the fun they had.

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The Wigwam,
August
23,
1935.